lengths of new roads to be opened at both ends, *viz.*, Vellanadi Estate road end to Perur *todu*, about 1½ miles long and from Erumeli to the 1st mile of the Cheruvalli Estate road about 4½ miles long and the portion of the Kanjirapalli-Erumeli road, from Erumeli to Perur *todu* will have to be utilised for the intermediate portion. The estimate has been called for and as soon as it is ready the matter will be taken up.

68. Communications in the Tiruvalla taluk.

MR. K. RAMASWAMI AIYAR (*Member, Municipal Council, Tiruvalla*) said that the Market canal at Tiruvalla was not fit for navigation, the chief reasons being its narrowness and shallowness and its bend near the Market landing at Changanachery. Consequently, boats laden with merchandise had to be unloaded at a great distance from the Market landing. In view to remove the difficulties, the member suggested that the Vayalapalli–Mannadattu *todu* connecting the Manipuzha–Peringara river with the Market canal be widened and deepened, thereby rendering it navigable for big country boats used for the transport of goods. The Manipuzha–Peringara river formed the western boundary of the Tiruvalla taluk and it was along that river that boats coming from Cochin, Alleppey, Kottayam, etc., were taken to Chengannur, Kozhenchery and other places. The canal will facilitate the passage of boats along the Tiruvalla Market canal. Moreover, commodities could be carried from the Tiruvalla market to the Changanachery market which is held a day after the Tiruvalla fair. The total length of the canal would be only three quarters of a mile.

The Vallipalam- Perumpalam *todu* passed through the centre of the Tiruvalla town. But, in spite of its central position, it was not fit for navigation nor could its water be used by the people for drinking or bathing purposes during the summer season. The canal could be made useful if a bund be constructed across the Kadalimangalam river just below the Chakrasala *kadavu* thereby obstructing the free flow of water westward along the river, and diverting it along the canal above referred to. One other advantage of the proposal was the prevention of Manipuzha-Peringara river from being silted up.

The Muttar-Kavumbhagam road was an important road in the Tiruvalla taluk used by many people for journeying to and from Kottayam, Changanachery and other places. The road badly needed improvements which should be carried out and a bridge constructed at Sri Narayanapurattu *kadavu*.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Ramaswami Aiyar, all these three proposals of yours require careful investigation which the Chief Engineer will undertake.

69. Reform of the Ayurveda Department.

MR. M. S. NANU (*Member, Nominated*) said that, although the Ayurvedic system of treatment under Government's auspices was introduced in the State about 51 years ago, the Ayurveda Department had not been brought into a satisfactory working order. The reforms introduced in the department had been very slow. In 1051, an Ayurvedic *vaidyan* was first appointed by the Government in Trivandrum. In 1064, certain *vaidyans* were awarded grants-in-aid. The Ayurveda School was established in 1065; but it was only in 1096 that it was raised to the status of a college. It was only about the year 1090 that a separate department was formed; but since then no appreciable progress had been made in the development of that department. A complete reform of the department was therefore absolutely necessary.

Taking the case of the Ayurveda College first, the member said that the Ayurveda School and the Sanskrit College, both of which were institutions of close resemblance, were established in about the same year. In 1068, the minimum pay of a teacher in the Ayurveda School was Rs. 10 and that of a teacher in the Sanskrit College was Rs. 7, while the maximum pay in each was Rs. 20. Since then revisions of pay had been effected in both the institutions; but while the pay of teachers in the Sanskrit College was enhanced to four or five times their original pay, the pay of the *pandits* in the Ayurveda College was not proportinately enhanced. The principles adopted by the Salaries Committee in revising the pay of the officers of the several departments were not applied to the Ayurveda Department, except in the case of the clerical staff. The *pandits* in the Ayurveda College with their meagre salary found it difficult to

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